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globular form and with wooden stoppers, used to carry wine by hand on journeys, are called *botas*. Larger skins, also used for journeys, especially by teamsters, are called, *cabritas*, and hold from 1 to 2 *arrobas*. The regulation *pellejo* runs from 6 to 10 *arrobas* in weight.

As to the use of skins as containers for water, wine, oil and as floats, in Africa and the Near East, you surely know more than I. Skins are frequently depicted on Assyrian and Egyptian bas-reliefs and paintings. I have an idea of having seen the operation of skinning by inflation and the subsequent preparation of the skins as containers, somewhere depicted in an Egyptian bas-relief, but cannot recall where.¹

It is very probable that the inflation method was used in many parts of Spanish America, but so far I have been able to learn of its practice in only two other regions. Dr. J. Alden Mason was informed of its prior practice in Monterey county, California, where it was said to have been used on sheep and to have been borrowed from the Spanish Missions, though it seems no longer to be used in that locality. Mr. Celso Espinosa writes me that it was in use in New Mexico, though not generally. He writes under date of August 13, 1916,

Personally I witnessed this practice on several occasions some thirty years ago, in southwestern Colorado although by New Mexicans. The animal was killed, incisions were made in the lower part of the legs and it was then inflated by blowing with the mouth. The operation was finished with a knife. The method is a very speedy and efficient one, and beyond doubt was prevalent both in New Mexico and Colorado, although for some reason it seems to have been discontinued in later years.

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DOUBLE COILING

WHILE examining the collection of San Carlos Apache baskets in the American Museum of Natural History recently, what is supposed to be a veritable freak was brought to light, a double coiled basket.

In the accompanying photograph the junction of the two coils may be seen about one half inch to the right of the finishing point of the basket.

The idea of the double coil being so "unthinkable" in the realm of coiled baskets, according to previous experience, it was some minutes before the cause for the junction was discovered.

The statement that the basket was made by sewing (or carrying along) two coils at a time was received rather incredulously, but such was actually the case. The starting point for the double coil may be seen in the last row of the black and white checker work completing the bottom,

¹ Prof. W. Max Müller believes there is no evidence of the practice of inflation in ancient Egypt.

at the foot of the first human figure to the left from the bottom. If either one of these coils be traced around the basket it will come out two rows above the starting point, showing that two coils were carried at one time. These were not sewed with a figure eight stitch, as was suggested, but in



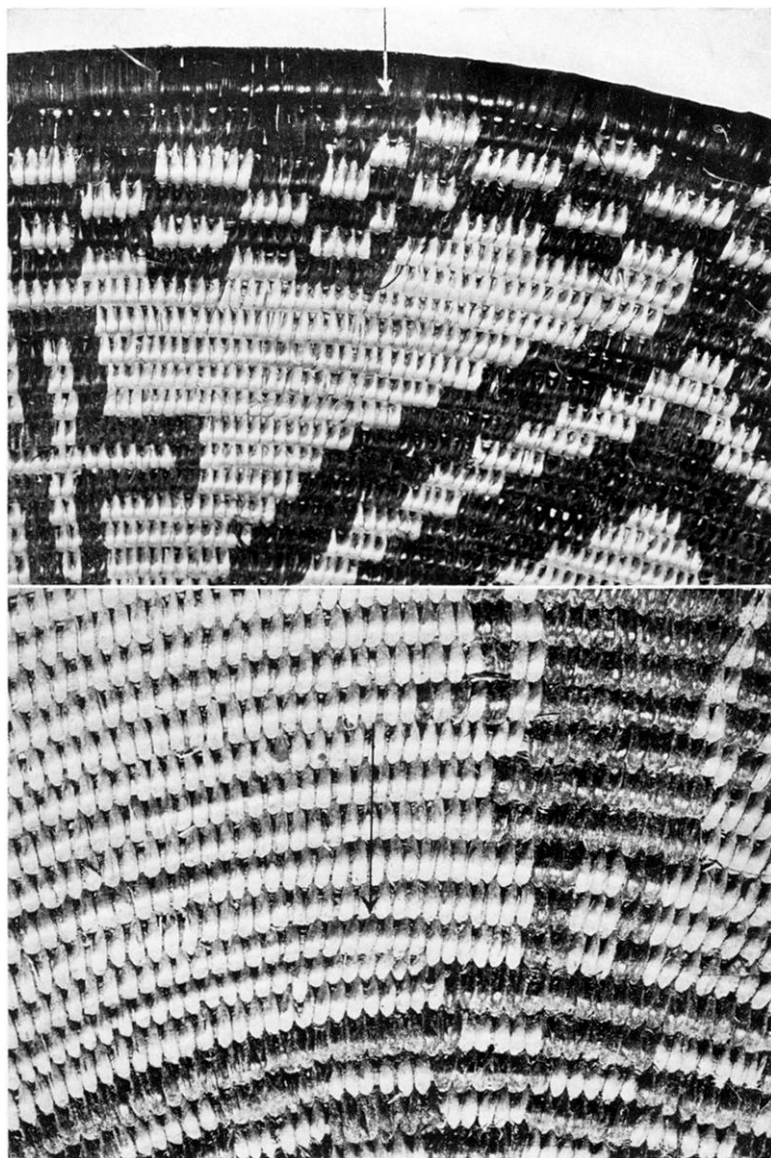
FIG. 78.—Apache basket. (50-9035 A.M.N.H.)

the regular manner and probably with a few stitches at a time, first on the lower, then on the upper coil.

From a standpoint of design, the basket is complicated enough, as San Carlos work goes, and beautifully executed, in fact, above the average, but the double coil is the unique feature according to authorities at the Museum, and so far, no explanation has been forthcoming as to the reason for such a method of procedure, unless it is, as Dr. Boas is wont to say, a beautiful example of virtuosity, that is, of playing with the technique.

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DOUBLE COILED BASKET
LOWER, BEGINNING OF DOUBLE COIL: UPPER, ENDING OF DOUBLE COIL